

US006298012B1

(12) United States Patent

Benjamin

(10) Patent No.:

US 6,298,012 B1

(45) **Date of Patent:**

Oct. 2, 2001

(54) DOUBLY RESONANT PUSH-PULL FLEXTENSIONAL

(75) Inventor: Kim C. Benjamin, Portsmouth, RI

(US)

(73) Assignee: The United States of America as represented by the Secretary of the

Navy, Washington, DC (US)

(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this

patent is extended or adjusted under 35

U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

(21) Appl. No.: 09/413,057

(22) Filed: Oct. 4, 1999

(51) **Int. Cl.**⁷ **H04R 17/00** (52) **U.S. Cl.** **367/174**; 367/141; 367/163

174; 310/337, 321

(56) References Cited

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

4,384,351	*	5/1983	Pagliarini, Jr. et al	367/175
4 764 907	*	8/1988	Dahlstrom et al	367/163
4 072 300	*	11/1990	Pagliarini, Jr	367/158
5.515,343	*	5/1996	Boucher et al	367/158

5 757 728	*	5/1998	Tenghamn et al	367/163
3,131,120		3/1//0	101161111111111111111111111111111111111	0.07/1.61
5 026 430	*	7/1999	Piquette	36//101
.1.720.432		111777	1 14	

* cited by examiner

Primary Examiner—Ian J. Lobo (74) Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Michael J. McGowan; Prithyi C. Lall; Michael F. Oglo

(57) ABSTRACT

The present invention relates to a flextensional transducer device comprising a multi-resonant shell and push-pull driving system for driving the shell so as to provide at least two tunable resonant modes, thereby increasing the operational bandwidth of the device. The push-pull driving system is formed by four rings of active drive material grouped to operate as two opposing push-pull pairs. The shell has a dog-bone configuration with two arcuately shaped interior web portions joined to the pairs of rings, end sections joined to the interior web portions, and a central concave section which functions as the primary radiating surface. Upon application of a desired current to the push-pull ring pairs, the interior web portions are caused to vibrate, which vibrations are transmitted to the end sections and the central concave section. By raising or lowering the bending stiffness of the interior web portions, the end sections, and the central concave section, one can selectively tune the modal resonance of the shell.

7 Claims, 1 Drawing Sheet

